(b) whether this exploration is being done by Indian or foreign company; and

(c) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) After the recent discovery of oil and gas in February, 2003 a Production Sharing Contract (PSC) was signed on 4th February, 2003 under the third round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) with the consortium of Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) for an exploration block RJ-ONN-2001/1 situated in Bikaner and Ganganagar districts of the State of Rajasthan. The work programme under the PSC for this block envisages investment of about Rs. 60 crores in the first phase with commitment for reprocessing of data, acquiring 3D seismic data and drilling of exploratory wells. The exploration work will start after the grant of Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) by the State of Rajasthan.

LPG connections in Doda district

3331. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG connections provided by various agencies in Doda District of Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years;

(b) the number of consumers registered for new LPG connections during the above period; and

(c) the number of additional gas connections issued in the district alongwith the number of consumers on the waiting list, agency-wise during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have released 4,547 new LPG connections against the registrations made by the distributors in Doda District of Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years. There is no waiting list pending with any of the the distributor in Doda District and LPG connections are available on demand.